

MEXICAN WAR, AND SLAVERY.

RESOLUTIONS

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF VERMONT,

RELATIVE TO

*Slavery and the Mexican war.*

FEBRUARY 9, 1847.

Read, and committed to the Committee of the whole House on the state of the Union.

RESOLUTIONS relative to slavery and the Mexican war.

Whereas, in our judgment, the existing war with Mexico was not founded in any imperative necessity, such as may justify or excuse a Christian nation for resorting to arms, and has now manifestly become an offensive war against a neighboring republic; and whereas we have just grounds for anticipating that the territory which has been, or may be occupied or conquered, will become slave territory, and, as such, claim admission to the Union; and whereas its admission as such, and with a mixed population, degraded by ignorance and superstition, and allied to us neither in interests, character, nor language, will endanger the harmony, welfare, and perpetuity of the Union: therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, That the honor and best interests of the nation will be subserved by a speedy end of the war with Mexico, and a settlement of all matters in dispute by arbitration or negotiation.*

*Resolved, That Vermont will not give its countenance, aid, or assent to the admission into the federal Union of any new State whose constitution tolerates slavery; and does hereby appeal to each of her sister States to concur, in its own name, in this declaration.*

*Resolved, That the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Vermont will conform to the hearty wishes of their constituents, by earnestly supporting the principles set forth in the foregoing preamble and resolutions, and in using all other just, effectual, and constitutional means to avert the tremendous evils of slavery, and resist its encroachments upon the rights and interests of the non-slaveholding States.*

*Resolved, That his excellency the governor be requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to the governor of each State in the Union, and to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, under the seal of the State, and with his signature of approval.*

Approved November 3, 1846.

HORACE EATON. [L. S.]

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RELATIVE TO

Slavery and the Mexican war

FEBRUARY 9, 1847.

Read, and committed to the consideration of the whole House on the state of the Union.

RESOLUTIONS relative to slavery and the Mexican war.

Whereas, in our judgment, the existing war with Mexico was not a defensive war, but a war of aggression, and has now necessarily become an offensive war against a neighboring republic; and whereas we have just grounds for anticipating that the territory which has been or may be conquered or purchased, will become slave territory, and as such, claim admission to the Union; and whereas its admission as such, and with a mixed population, degraded by ignorance and superstition, and allied to us neither in interests, character, nor language, will endanger the harmony, welfare, and perpetuity of the Union; therefore, Resolved, That the honor and best interests of the nation will be subserved by a speedy end of the war with Mexico, and a settlement of all matters in dispute by arbitration or negotiation.

Resolved, That Vermont will not give its countenance, aid, or assent to the admission into the federal Union of any new State whose constitution registers slavery; and does hereby appeal to each of her sister States to concur, in its own name, in this declaration.

Resolved, That the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Vermont will conjoin to the hearty wishes of their constituents, by earnestly supporting the principles set forth in the foregoing preamble and resolutions, and in using all other just, effectual, and constitutional means to avert the tremendous evils of slavery, and resist its encroachments upon the rights and interests of the non-slaveholding States.

Resolved, That his excellency the governor be requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to the governor of each State in the Union, and to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, under the seal of the State, and with his signature of approval.

Approved November 3, 1846.